

### **Abstract**

The present invention provides a method and apparatus for detecting and managing the state of a computer network comprising network nodes with redundant network connections, and for recovering from multiple network faults. In one embodiment, a network status table is employed in each node to manage data related to the network state between the node and other nodes in the network. In various embodiments, rerouting of data is managed independently such that a communication path is independently selected for sending data from a node to a connected node and for receiving data from the connected node. The invention in some embodiments is operable to route data through one or more intermediate nodes where direct connection between a pair of nodes is not possible.

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